GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6785
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural output has shown increasing trend since 1995- 96;

(b) if so, the agricultural output in 1995-96 and 1999-2000;

(c) whether average daily number of farmers in agricultural and allied sectors has shown decreasing trend as per the increased population ratio;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to make the agricultural sector more lucrative to enable to put more farmers in this field; and

(f) the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a): The production of major agricultural crops has generally shown an increasing trend since 1995-96 except during 1997-98 and 1999-2000.

(b): The production of major agricultural crops during 1995-96 and 1999-2000 is given below:-

Production in million tonnes

Crops	1995-96	1999-2000@
Foodgrains	180.42	201.56
Oilseeds	22.10	21.54
Cotton#	12.86	10.45
Sugarcane	281.10	292.64

\# = Million bales of 170 kgs.
@ = Advance estimates as on 27.3.2000.

(c)&(d): The information on average daily number of farmers in agricultural and allied sectors is not maintained. However, percentage of cultivators and agricultural labourers to total population was 21.9%, according to Population Census 1991 compared to 21.7% in the preceding Population Census of 1981.

(e)&(f): In order to make agricultural sector more lucrative, the Government isimplementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to increase production and productivity on one hand and to provide remunerative prices to farmers under the Price Support Schemes on the other hand.

To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains in the country, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal DevelopmentProgrammes in rice/wheat/coarse cereals Based Cropping System Area, National Pulses Development Project etc. Under these programmes/project, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and use of improved farm implements. Research is also being continuously undertaken to develop improved technologies so as to enhance the

productivity and production of foodgrains in India. Field demonstrations on farmers` holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers is being organised for effective transfer of technology. Under the scheme of MSP (Minimum Support Price), 24 major agricultural commodities have been covered. Price for these commodities are fixed every season and nodal agencies have been identified which enter the market and procure the agricultural commodities, in case the prices touch the MSP. In addition, price support to certain agriculture commodities is extended under Market Intervention Scheme.